The Mystery of His Love

"…I have a baptism to be baptized with; and how am I straitened till it be accomplished!" (Luke 12:50)

If anything can awake astonishment, and inflame our gratitude, it must be that mystery of love, God manifested in our nature, and made man to bleed and die for our salvation. That He should condescend to be sold for thirty shekels of silver, that is, for three pounds fifteen shillings of our money; to be apprehended and condemned as a malefactor; to be crowned with piercing thorns; to be scourged at the bloody pillar; to bear His cross; to be numbered with transgressors; to be reviled by ruffianly soldiers, and a merciless populace; to be torn with tormenting nails; and pierced with a hostile spear; and suspended on the ignominious tree, between heaven and earth, as unworthy of either, though He was the maker and preserver of both. *What* thought can reach, *what* tongue can tell, the infinite riches of His love to man, that induced Him freely to undergo all this, only to make *him* happy! Nay, He not only *freely* underwent it, but even *longed* for the time of His crucifixion to come—"I have a baptism [says He] a baptism of sufferings to be baptized with; and how am I straitened till it be accomplished?" (Luke 12:50)

How should these considerations engage us, who are His [purchased possession] (Ephesians 1:14), to trust in His atonement, and to honor Him with our lips and in our lives. Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the apostle and high priest of our profession, Christ Jesus. Keep your mind, steadfastly fixed on Him, who is the Messenger of the covenant of grace, and the executor of its conditions. He did not appear in this lower world barely to reveal the gospel, for that could have been done at an easier expense than His incarnation and death. Any angel could have proclaimed it, or prophets declared the same, as indeed the prophets did, for *"to Him give all the prophets witness."* But Christ came to procure forgiveness, and to *suffer*, and obey, for the salvation of the elect people of God.

Nothing but this could warrant the extreme depth of His humiliation, or comport with the essential dignity of His person, who was to sanctify His people with His own blood, and offering up of Himself, once for all, and by ever living for to intercede for them. [Reader] openly then profess, confess, and acknowledge Him in the face of an opposing world. Confess your guilt, as the priest under the law confessed the iniquities of Israel over the head of the scape-goat. Render to Him the thanks of your heart for His great humility, for His perfect righteousness, for His complete propitiation, for His perpetual intercession, and for the whole of His redeeming grace. Let us never forget, that through the covenant mercy of God, the righteousness of Christ was admitted as our payment; that Christ's sufferings were our ransom; and the whole of His obedience unto death, is our free, full, and final discharge [deliverance] from punishment.

These considerations received by faith, will cause us to rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: they will put a new song into our mouths, even thanksgiving unto God, and make us sing, "O death, where is thy sting!? O grave, where is thy victory!?" – **Augustus Toplady**

February 2nd, 2020 / Bulletin #152

"Surely His salvation is nigh them that fear Him; that glory may dwell in our land." (Psalm 85:9)

Our church gathers together in New Caney, Texas at 23033 Hughey Ave, 77357 / (832) 543 5333

Bible Classes	Sun, 10 AM
Worship Service	Sun, 11 AM
Bible Study	Wed, 7 PM

Nursery available for 4 years old and younger

Joseph D Murphy, pastor
(832) 995 7925 / joseph@sovereigngrace.us

SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH
in New Caney, Texas

Servicio en español domingo 6:00 PM y martes 7:00 PM

When my father died at the age of 49, I remember many people saying how tragic it was, he didn't get to live a full life. While I understand that sentiment, the truth is he lived every day, every hour, and every minute that God gave him. And so, whether it's 9, 49, or 99 years; reader know this, our time is appointed. Or as Job put it *"his days are determined, the number of his months are with thee, thou hast appointed his bounds that he cannot pass"* (Job 14:5) What comfort for the believing sinner! Beloved, we're not left to the winds of chance, but rather ever so blessedly, we're kept by the Lord God omnipotent who reigneth. [1 Peter 1:5, Revelation 19:6]

WELCOME

Welcome! We're an imperfect church, with an imperfect pastor that loves the perfect Gospel of Christ. Beloved, *He shall save His people from their sins* (**Matthew 1:21**). It is our prayer that the Lord will be pleased to *call*, *convict*, and *comfort* you with the gospel of His blood and righteousness (**Isaiah 40:1-2**). You can expect a gospel message that's about 45 minutes, hymns that glorify our Lord, scripture readings, and helpful people to answer any questions you may have.

CONNECTION CARD

We invite everyone to fill out a **Connection Card** (you'll find one in the pew). This is an easy way to keep us informed of what's going on in your life, as well as a place where you can ask questions and update your contact information.

If you are a first-time visitor, please fill one out. As a thank-you, we'd love to send you a copy of '**The religion that comes from God**'.

Do you belong to the Lord Jesus Christ? If you do, you are His purchased possession. We would love to meet you after the service to get to know you better.

WEBSITES

Be sure to visit our websites for gospel articles, audio messages, and books.

sovereingrace.us - Our church website, bulletins, articles
bookshelf.sovereingrace.us - Free ebooks, tracts, booklets
appsermons.sovereingrace.us - Audio messages for Apple devices
andsermons.sovereingrace.us - Audio messages for Android devices
apparticles.sovereingrace.us - Audio Articles for Apple devices
andarticles.sovereingrace.us - Audio Articles for Android devices

EVENT CALENDAR

Today!

Fellowship Luncheon at the parsonage after the service

Sovereign Grace Bible Conference

Donnie Bell, Donald Fortner

February 21st, 22nd, & 23rd

Happy B-lated!

Noah Gibbs - January 30th

GRACE ARTICLES

Raised in Glory

"It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power" (**1 Corinthians 15:43**).

[Reader,] death may come before you are aware. What then is wisdom? What is duty? Is it not to prepare to meet God? Does not God in His providence, as well as His word call upon each of the [unrepentant] to turn from the ways of sin to that narrow path that leads unto life? Does he not say to each of you in this assembly, *"Boast not thyself of tomorrow, for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth." "O that you were wise that you understood this, that you would consider your latter end."* [Proverbs 27:1, Deuteronomy 32:29]

What a glorious reversing scheme is that of the Gospel in respect to every believer! Curses become blessings; darkness is turned to light; sin is exchanged for holiness; in place of death, there is life; for a vile body there is one fashioned like the glorious body of Christ; for condemnation, there is an everlasting acquittal from all the guilt of sin; for hell there is heaven, and for sorrow and suffering there is endless bliss.

The Apostle enters into this sentiment, when he says, 'It is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption; it is sown in dishonor it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; it is sown a natural body it is raise a spiritual body. As we have borne the image of the earthly, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, "Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? Thanks be to God who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Who then would neglect the great salvation? Who would not be a christian? None but he who had rather remain a [rebel] through life, than forever to enjoy a universe of good. – **Copied**